

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REGION II 230 PEACHTREE STREET, N. W. SUITE 813 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

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J. H. Sniezek, Chief, Light Water Reactor Programs Branch, Office of Inspection and Enforcement, Headquarters

THRU: N. C. Moseley, Director, Region II, Office of Inspection and Enforcement

FLORIDA POWER CORPORATION, CRYSTAL RIVER 3, DOCKET NO. 50-302 - RETESTING FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS OF REACTOR BUILDING SPRAY SYSTEM

B&W informed the Director of IE by letter of May 8, 1975, of a possible deficiency in the performance of the sodium thiosulfate reactor building spray system. The concern was that the sodium thiosulfate and sodium hydroxide tanks would empty at a rate faster than designed, i.e., would not inject their contents at a rate commensurate with the draining rate of the borated water storage tank (FSAR 6.2.2.1).

In September 1975, a draw down test was performed of the system by filling the BWST, the sodium hydroxide and sodium thiosulfate tanks with water, then using the safeguards pumps to transfer the water from all three of the tanks simultaneously to the refugling canal. Analysis of the results reveals that when the draw down test was terminated after 37 minutes of pumping, the BWST was 91% empty, the sodium hydroxide tank was still 66.3% full and the sodium thiosulfate tank was 71.3% full. FPC's consultant, Gilbert Associates, developed a computer program (Model) to analyze the flow characteristics of the chemical tanks and associated piping in relation to the flow characteristics of the borated water storage tank. The analysis performed by the consultant, using the model, agreed closely with the test results. Based on the analysis, the consultant recommended that a stop check valve in each of four discharge lines from the chemical tanks (2 lines per tank) be replaced with swing check valves to reduce the pressure drop across the valves; thereby increasing the flow. The licensee has informed Region II that the valves will be cut out and replaced. Also, that the model indicates that the system will perform as designed after the modification; therefore, retesting will not be performed.

Our position is that the specific discrepancy relating to the safeguards systems chemical tanks and piping arrangement was identified and confirmed by testing and retesting should be performed to verify the J. H. Sniezek

adequacy of the modification. This position has been pursued with licensee corporate management personnel without results. We would not be in a position to recommend issuance of the license without retest of this system. You are requested to review the condition and if you concur in our position, discuss the matter with Licensing.

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F. J. Long, Chief Reactor Operations and Nuclear Support Branch

cc: G. Roy, IE:HQ S. Bryan, IE:HQ R. C. Lewis, IE:II